



**Sean Rogan**  
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Commissioners

# ADOPTED

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HOUSING AUTHORITY

August 02, 2011

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The Honorable Board of Commissioners  
Housing Authority of the  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Commissioners:

**APPROVE THE RECEIPT OF FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY COORDINATOR GRANT FUNDING  
FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTE)**

**SUBJECT**

This letter requests approval to accept and incorporate up to \$690,000 in grant funding for the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) into the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles' (Housing Authority) approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find that the receipt and incorporation of funds is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the action is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to accept the \$690,000 in FSS Coordinator Grant funding from HUD and take any and all related actions necessary to receive these funds from HUD.
3. Authorize the Executive Director to incorporate up to \$690,000 in FSS Coordinator Grant funding from HUD into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purposes of this action is to accept and incorporate up to \$690,000 in FSS Coordinator Grant funding into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget to cover FSS

Coordinator administrative costs for the FSS Program.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There is no impact on the County general fund.

The Housing Authority applied for and has been awarded \$690,000 in FSS federal grant funding from HUD to cover ten FSS Coordinator administrative positions. A total of \$621,000 will fund nine positions for the Assisted Housing Division, and the remaining \$69,000 will fund one position for the Housing Management Division. The funds will be incorporated in the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program is a HUD mandated program that requires public housing agencies (PHAs) to develop strategies, such as job training, homeownership programs, scholarships, tuition reimbursement, childcare and transportation, to help Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher families and public housing residents obtain employment that will lead to economic independence and self-sufficiency.

The FSS escrow is a unique feature of the program whereby an interest-bearing FSS escrow account is established by the PHA for each participating family. Upon becoming employed, FSS participants continue to pay rent in accordance with the Housing Authority's housing choice voucher procedures. An escrow deposit, based on increases in earned income of the family, is credited to this account using HUD funds during the term of the FSS contract. If the family successfully completes the program, the family can apply to graduate from the program and receive the accrued portion of their escrow account.

Periodically, HUD provides FSS administrative funds to assist public housing agencies in achieving FSS goals. The Housing Authority applied for funding in December 2010 and was notified in June 2011, that it was awarded a total of ten FSS Coordinator Grants to offset the costs of FSS Coordinator positions. This is the first time the Housing Management Division has received FSS funding and the second consecutive year of funding for the Assisted Housing Division. Housing Management will be recruiting for a new contract position, and Assisted Housing will use the funds to cover costs of existing staff who administer the FSS program.

As of May 2011, seven families have graduated from the Housing Authority's FSS program in the current Fiscal Year and the Housing Authority is currently providing FSS supportive services to 472 families.

On July 27, 2011, the Housing Commission recommended approval to accept and incorporate these funds into the Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This action is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(3) because it involves administrative and management activities that will not have a physical impact on or result in any physical changes to the environment. The action is not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378 because it is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not

have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The acceptance and incorporation of funds will enable the Housing Authority to continue administering the FSS program and continue providing supportive services to the 472 low and moderate-income Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher families currently enrolled under the FSS program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line.

SEAN ROGAN

Executive Director

SR:lt